

Grants-in-aid under RGPSA to Odisha State for 2015-16 for capacity building and training and other institutional supports.

Observations of the CEC:

1. **Financial progress during the last years:** The committee took stock of the financial progress during the last years, unspent balance with State and the activities it proposes to undertake with unspent balance. It was observed that whereas progresses relating to infrastructure activities were good, funds towards the activities in respect of Administrative and Technical support at GP level training, PESA, e-governance, PMU were not expended. To this, the state clarified that the desired progress in respect of these items could not be made because of certain reasons like court cases, model code of conduct of elections etc. CEC noted the intended use of balance available with the state for construction of DPRCs, support to Panchayats with inadequate resource base by providing basic services, support to PESA areas, and for the carried over activities of Capacity Building & Training, PMUs & IEC activities.
2. **PESA Activities:** On a query of SPR, the State clarified that PESA rules have been drafted and pending for approval with HCM. Shri Meenakshi Sunderam, Member CEC observed that the progress of PESA in the State was far from satisfactory. The amount released for PESA activities was not seen utilized. Out of 1926 PESA GPs, the Gram Sabha orientation was held only for 946 GPs and only 560 GS Mobilizers were engaged. Further the Block and District coordinators for PESA areas were also not engaged. She also sought to clarify as to whether the training for PESA activities were undertaken or proposed to be undertaken. To this, the State clarified that it had proposed to involve some agencies and NGOs in Tribal areas as PESA Mobilizers. It was clarified that the State may seek funds towards PESA activities as it was allowed under the revised priorities of RGPSA. **In view of the observations and discussions above, the State representative stated that they would revisit their PESA requirement and submit supplementary proposal.**
3. **GPDP Guidelines:** It was informed by State that the GPDP Guidelines have been prepared and are with Hon'ble CM for approval. On the GPDP guidelines, the committee made the following observations:
 - a. NREGA plan should be integrated with GPDP.
 - b. Role and composition of BRG and DRG was not clear. Roles and responsibilities has been indicated against the official hierarchy and not against the proposed committees at district and block level.
 - c. It appears that the line functionaries would be responsible for both the planning and the implementation of the GPDP, and that projectisation is independent of the participatory planning exercise. When the line technical functionaries were not devolved to Panchayats, it was unclear how the GP can assign technical staff for their work.

- d. As regard planning and visioning at Gram Sabha level, the specifics of presentation to GS have not been provided in the guidelines. Further the visioning process envisages discussions with Palli Sabha and not the Gram Sabha.
4. **RGPSA proposal for 2015-16:**
- i) **GPDP Training:** The State has proposed training for resource group at the State, District, Block and at GP level for one day each. It was observed by Committee that the one day training for these was not sufficient and perhaps the State did not appreciate the nuances of Capacity Building and Training for resource group at respective levels. Further, the trainings for master trainers, line department functionaries and elected representatives etc., It was strongly felt that the GPDP activities in the State particularly CB&T should be augmented. **To this, the State representative replied that they will revisit their training strategy for GPDP and recast their training plan.**
 - ii) **Supporting resource group for de-centralized planning:** The State has proposed for remuneration for resource group at State, District and Block level for attending meeting and mobility support for 5 months. It was clarified that HR support for State and District level should be factored in to the cost for HR allowed in respect of SPRC & DPRC.
 - iii) **E-enablement/e-governance of Panchayats:** The State representative informed that in the proposal for 2015-16, the State has skipped the e-Panchayat component. Although it has adopted the PFMS system, based on the learnings from Maharashtra, the State required e-manpower for Panchayats. **Hence, the State will rework and recast their proposal for e-enablement/e-governance.**
 - iv) **Training infrastructure and HR for training infrastructure:** The State has proposed support for capital expenditure relating to furniture and teaching aid for SPRC & DPRC and also for construction of a new DPRC at District Kandhamal @ 2.00 cr. Further, the State has also sought faculty support for SPRC & DPRCs/ETCs. The amount proposed for consideration under this head is Rs. 929.50 Lakhs. It was therefore clarified that State should prioritise its activities taking into account the tentative allocation for State as per cost norms under RGPSA.

In view of the discussions and observations on the RGPSA proposal of Odisha for 2015-16 as brought out above it was decided that State would submit revised proposal for consideration of CEC.